

STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

Kenny C. Guinn, Governor

Allen Biaggi, Director

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator

NOTICE OF DECISION MAJOR MODIFICATION 2006 September 26, 2006

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PERMIT NUMBER NEVO096103

Homestake Mining Company of California Ruby Hill Mine Project

The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection has decided to approve a major modification to Water Pollution Control Permit NEV0096103 issued to Homestake Mining Company of California. This major modification authorizes the construction, operation, and closure of approved mining facilities in Eureka County. The Division has been provided with sufficient information, in accordance with Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A.350 through NAC 445A.447, to assure the Division that the groundwater quality will not be degraded by this operation, and that public safety and health will be protected.

The modified permit will become effective 11 October 2006. The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 445A.605 and NAC 445A.407. All requests for appeals must be filed by 5:00 PM, 06 October 2006, on Form 3, with the State Environmental Commission, 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001, Carson City, Nevada 89701-5249. For more information, contact Miles Shaw at (775) 687-9409 or visit the Division website at www.ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.htm.

No comments were received during the public comment period.